# To mine approoued Friende

## *Andro Hart.*

MAster Hart, *beeing at* King-horne, *bearing company to my deare and ſickly Nephew, who is come thither to craue helpe from this recently laureate Maſter Doctor*, the new-found, much celebrated Well, *I haue penned a little Diſcourſe, containing in a Letter* To my Lord Chancellar, *the Nature and Effectes of this Water. But I am wonderfully*

# To the Printer.

*importuned, either writing or diting Copies of the ſame. For the which cauſe I ſende to you, as to a Common Father of Letters, the principall piece: that you maye giue it the Cogniſsance of your Characters, and a patent Paſport vnder the Seale of your Preſſe. So conſtrained to cut ſhort, by the clamour of Mariners calling to the Tide, I take my leaue at Leith this 8. of Auguſt,* anno 1618.

Your moſt affectio-
nate friende

BARCLAY, Doct. Med.

# THE NATVRE & EFFECTS OF THE NEW-FOVND WELL AT KINGHORNE:

Declared by William Barclay, Maſter of *Artes and Doctour of Phyſicke*,

AND

Written in a Letter to my Lord the Earle *of Dumfermeling, and Chancellar* of Scotland.

AR Gordon

*EDINBURGH*,
Printed by Andro Hart,
ANNO DOMINI 1618.

BIBLIOTHECA BODLEIANA

# TO MY VERIE HONOVRABLE LORD, My Lord the Earle of Dumfermeling, *and Chancellar of Scotland.*

MY LORD,

I Knowe how little leasure the Affaires of this Kingdome doe afford to your L. and I know how large a Discourse the Argument of this Letter doeth minister: Therefore I shall not distract your L. busied attension; neither shall I extende this pur-

poſe, but according to your L. intelligent judgement I ſhall contriue an obſcure and intricate ſubject to a compendious narration.

This latelie found, and newlie-knowne, too-too long vnknowne Well,

*Si fama didicit jam non mentiri.*

This Well is ſo blazed abroade; and our Phyſicians, not without cauſe, are ſo loath to open their mindes concerning the ſame, that I, imboldened both by your L. countenance and Vnderſtanding, haue taken the hardineſſe to breake the yce, and ſhow to your L. ſo much as I can perceiue, touching the cauſes and nature of this Water, and of the effects and vertues thereof, that the reſt of my more learned Collegues may bee encouraged to dye their exerciſed Quilles in this wholſome Liquour.

IT is a mixed water by the continuall flowing thorow a Mettall, from whence it hath contracted a ſpirituall energie, and a certaine *Mercuriall* ſubtile ſubſtance: To be ſhort, The Mettall which hath communicated force and efficacie to this water, is

Tinne.

Tinne. The reaſons of my conjectures are taken from three heads: 1. From the ſubſtance of the water: 2. From the effectes thereof: 3. And from the adjacent circumſtances. From the water it ſelfe are manie pregnant reaſons: As that the water being a compound, and mixed bodie, it carrieth no ſauour or taſte of anie thing, but of pure water; which argueth none other Mettall but Tinne: For anie other Minerall, or Semi-minerall, except Golde and Siluer, would bewray it ſelfe, by taſte or colour. But Golde it is not, neither is it Siluer, which I affirme by the effectes: For all Phyſicians, both *Dogmatickes* and *Spagyrickes*, receiue Golde and Siluer amongſt their cordiall Medicamentes, and not amongſt the Nephritickes: But this water is by experience Diuretick, and aſſwadgeth euidentlie Nephriticke dolours, waſheth the vreteres, and the bladder: which effects the *Paracelſians* attribute to *Saturne*. I neede not to draw the conſequent which willingly folowes the premiſſes. More, this water being diſtilled, or exhaled, leaueth in the bottome of the Alimbecke a Salt

vnſalt,

vnſalt, that is, a matter white like Chymik ſalt, which is vnſauorie, and ſomewhat inclining to ſweete, much like to the matter which the Alchimiſtes drawe from Tinne, and call it *Saccharum Saturni*.

Nowe ſecondlie, from the effectes I prooue it to be Tinne, Becauſe the whole fornace of *Paracelſe* keepe as a great ſecret in their Philoſophicall extractions, That *Saccharum Saturni*, that is to ſaye, the ſalt of Tinne is the onelie ſpeciall thing to cure an vlcere in the kidneyes, becauſe it is diureticke, and ſo carrieth to the afflicted part, and then it is deterſiue and drying, which qualities doe cure an vlcere, and which qualities wee finde in this water.

Laſtlie, from the adjacent circumſtances, wee reaſon this way: It is not vnprobable, that there ſhould bee Tinne in that part, becauſe it is a Mettall familiare, and domeſticke to this Yland, the beſt of *Europe* being found in ENGLAND. And the channell of the water, in that clift of the Rocke where it floweth, hath participated of the tincture of Tinne, as appeareth to euerie one that beholdeth: The Rocke it

ſelfe notwithſtanding being as it were imbrodered, and peſſimented with white laces of cleare and chryſtalline ſtones.

AS Towardes the effectes of this Water, There are two thinges to be ſaid, 1. What it might doe, beeing Phyſicallie vſed: 2. And what it hath done, beeing Vulgarlie abuſed. For the firſt I will ſupperceede, becauſe I am loath, at this time, to trouble your Lordſhip for the other.

This water is experimented to bee verie aperitiue, and ſerueth verie much for the waſhing away of Sande, beeing taken in ſuch quantitie as maketh a ſpeate: (Neither hath it beene founde that an exceeding great quantitie of it hath done anie harme) And it bringeth downe little ſtones from the kidneyes, and expelleth them alſo from the bladder. Yet it is not tried to haue force to diminiſh or demoliſh a conformed and ſolidated ſtone in the bladder, albeit it hindereth the intollerable doloures of the pitiable grauels, and quencheth the burning heate of their water, and cauſeth them make water without painfull

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dropping. It is very deterſiue, for the which quality it louſeth the belly of ſome. It is alſo very drying, and in this reſpect it bindeth the belly of moſt part of Drinkers: as we remarke the ſame accidents fall out in the vſe of Milke: For the croudy part bindeth ſome, and the ſerous or wheyiſh part louſeth others. Nowe joyning theſe two properties together, to deterge and to dry, it maketh a ſoueraigne remedie for all internall vlcers, alſo for this deterſiue qualitie, it is good for the ſight, becauſe it taketh away all clouds or blots, which effuſcate or dimme the *Cornea tunica*, and cauſeth the *Species intentionales* to paſſe more purelie & clearelie to the *humor chriſtallin*.

I adde thus much more, That there is not a more daintie Fairde for Ladies: no not *Oleum talci*, which is ſo curiouſlie euer ſought, and neuer found. It plaineth & poliſheth their faces, and taketh away all blots and furrowes, and leaueth no frumples in their Skinnes, with greater ſecuritie and honour, than the venomous *Sublimatum*, or *Ceruſſa*, which they ſo frequently abuſe, Becauſe this water hath the moſt ſpirituall

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operation of *Mercurie*, quinteſſenced from the Tinne: which I confirme by two reaſons: The one is, becauſe it is ſudorifick, & procureth ſweate in aboundance, beeing drunken ſome number of dayes conſequently. The other is, becauſe the temperament of it is hote, albeit it bee actuallie colde. The heate appeareth, in that it procureth to the eyes firſt a ſmart, and next a great itch.

Laſtly, this is a ſoueraigne and vnicke remedie for that diſeaſe in Women, which they neuer acknowledge to be a diſeaſe, while it bee almoſt paſt remedie: and more than a diſeaſe, when Phyſicians haue none helpe, but only ſorrow to heare their complaints, and the regrate of their lamentable negligence. So ceaſing to proſecute this warſh matter of water, I will neuer ceaſe to continue

*Your L. moſt humble and*
*obedient ſeruitour*

BARCLAY, Doct. Med.